

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

5339 Bus & Low-No Competitive Programs Joint Webinar



April 19th, 2016

Agenda

- Introductions
- Overview of the Funding Competitions in this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
 - Grants for Buses and Bus Facilities (49 U.S.C. 5339(b))
 - Low or No Emission (Low-No) Grants (49 U.S.C. 5339(c))
- Application Requirements and Forms
- Questions and Answers



FTA Staff Introductions

- Adam Schildge, Division Chief, Urban Programs
- Sam Snead, Program Manager, Section 5339
 - Buses and Bus Facility Competitive Program
 - samuel.snead@dot.gov
- Tara Clark, AICP, Program Manager, Section 5307
 - Low or No Emission Grants Competitive Program
 - tara.clark@dot.gov



- Notice of Funding Opportunity published: March 29, 2016
- Applications Due: May 13, 2016
 - Application Package can be found at <u>www.grants.gov</u> by searching for keyword "BUS PROGRAM". Applicants must register on <u>www.grants.gov</u> <u>at least 2-4 weeks prior</u> to applying.
- Project Evaluation Period : May July 2016
- Award Announcements: Late Summer 2016



Program Purpose

The purpose of the Bus Program is to improve the condition of the nation's public transportation bus fleets, expand transportation access to employment, educational, and healthcare facilities, and to improve mobility options in rural and urban areas throughout the country.

Policy Priorities

In accordance with the statutory requirement that FTA must `consider the age and condition of buses, bus fleets, related equipment, and bus-related facilities", FTA will prioritize projects that demonstrate how they will address significant repair and maintenance needs, improve the safety of transit systems, deploy connective projects that include advanced technologies to connect bus systems with other networks, and create of ladders of opportunity.

FTA is also interested in projects that use up to 0.5 percent of the award for workforce development activities and 0.5 percent for training at NTI.



Funding Availability

- Approximately \$211 million has been made available for bus and bus facilities projects that support the criteria laid out in the NOFO.
- Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice.
- No single applicant may receive more than ten percent of the total available.
- A minimum of ten percent will be allocated to rural projects.
- Funding is available for obligation for year of award plus three years.

Federal Share

- Projects selected under this opportunity are eligible for a maximum 80% Federal share, with a 20% non-Federal match.
- CAA and ADA eligible vehicles are eligible for a maximum 85% Federal/15% local match; and CAA and ADA eligible cost related to vehicle equipment or facilities are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% local match.



Eligible Applicants

- Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program direct recipients, States, or federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible to submit proposals for this initiative.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated application.
- Eligible sub-recipients include public agencies, private nonprofit organizations, and private providers engaged in public transportation.



Eligible Expenses

- Purchase, replacement, or rehabilitation of buses and vans, bus related equipment
- Replacement, construction, expansion or rehabilitation of bus-related facilities
- Intermodal facilities [must have adjacent connectivity with bus service]
- Costs incidental to the acquisition of buses or construction of a facility

Ineligible Expenses

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Other expanded capital eligibility items such as security drills or the establishment of a debt service reserve
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility Management



Evaluation Criteria

- Demonstration of Need
- Demonstration of Benefits
- 3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
- 4. Local Financial Commitment
- 5. Project Implementation Strategy
- 6. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity



- Notice of Funding Opportunity published: March 29, 2016
- Applications Due: May 13, 2016
 - Application Package can be found at <u>www.grants.gov</u> by searching for keyword "Low or No Emissions" or "Low-No." Applicants must register on <u>www.grants.gov</u> <u>at least 2-4 weeks prior</u> to applying.
- Projects Evaluations: May July 2016
- Award Announcements: Late Summer 2016



Program Purpose

The purpose of the Low-No Program is to support the transition of the nation's transit fleet to the lowest polluting and most energy efficient transit vehicle technologies, thereby reducing local air pollution and direct carbon emissions, and to support the deployment of technologically advanced U.S.-made transit buses that have been largely proven in testing and demonstrations, but are not yet widely deployed in transit fleets.

Policy Priorities

The applicant must demonstrate how the proposed project will support the following Low-No Program objectives: (1) Reduce Direct Carbon Emissions; (2) Reduce Particulate Emissions; (3) Support Deployment of Advanced Propulsion Technologies; (4) Demonstrate Successful Revenue Operation of New Technologies.

FTA is also interested in projects that use up to 0.5 percent of the award for workforce development activities and 0.5 percent for training at NTI.



Definition of Low or No Emission Bus

 A low or no-emission bus is defined as a passenger vehicle used to provide public transportation that significantly reduces energy consumption, air pollution, or direct carbon emissions, when compared to a standard vehicle. This includes zero-emission transit buses, which are defined as buses that produce no direct carbon emissions and no particulate matter emissions under any and all possible operational modes and conditions.

Program Requirements

- Projects are not required to be in an air quality non-attainment area
- Applicants may propose a partnership with specific manufacturers
- Proposed vehicles must make greater reductions in energy consumption and harmful emissions, including direct carbon emissions, than comparable standard buses or other low or no emission buses. (49 USC 5339(c)(5)(A)
- All proposed projects must be part of the intended recipient's long-term integrated fleet management plan. (49 USC 5339(c)(5)(B)



Funding Availability

- Approximately \$55 million has been made available for low or no emission bus and bus facilities projects that support the criteria laid out in the Bus Program Funding Opportunity.
- Projects will be selected on a competitive basis, consistent with the criteria outlined in the notice.
- Funding is available for obligation for year of award plus three years.

Federal Share

- Vehicles are eligible for a maximum 85% Federal/15% non-Federal match.
- Low or no emission bus related equipment or facilities are eligible for a 90% Federal/10% non-Federal match.



Eligible Applicants

- Section 5307 Urbanized Area Formula Program direct recipients, States, or federally recognized Indian Tribes are eligible to submit proposals for this initiative.
- Rural areas must submit as part of a consolidated application.
- Eligible sub-recipients include direct recipients of Section 5307 grants and local government authorities that operate fixed route transit service.
- An eligible recipient may submit an application in partnership with entities that intend to participate in the implementation of the project.



Eligible Expenses

- Purchase or lease of low or no emission buses
- Acquiring low or no emission buses with a leased power source
- Constructing or leasing facilities and related equipment for low or no emission buses
- Rehabilitating or improve existing facilities to accommodate low or no emission buses

Ineligible Expenses

- Operating expenses
- Preventive maintenance
- Development or deployment of prototype vehicles
- Previous project expenses
- Mobility Management



Evaluation Criteria

- Demonstration of Need
- 2. Demonstration of Benefits
- 3. Planning and Local/Regional Prioritization
- 4. Local Financial Commitment
- 5. Project Implementation Strategy
- 6. Technical, Legal & Financial Capacity



Application Requirements

Notice of Funding Opportunity (March 29, 2016):

https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-07027

Technical Correction Notice (April 12, 2016):

https://federalregister.gov/a/2016-08295

Application Information: http://www.transit.dot.gov/howtoapply

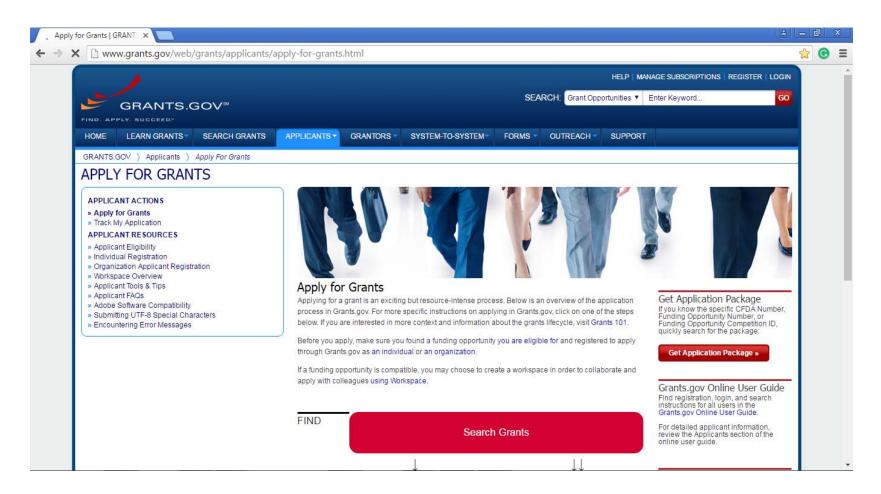
Completed applications must include:

- 1. SF-424 Application for Federal Assistance (from Grants.gov)
- 2. Bus Program Supplemental Form (from Grants.gov or FTA website)
- 3. Supporting Documentation

Application must be submitted through grants.gov by 11:59 PM EDT on May 13, 2016. Late applications may not be accepted.

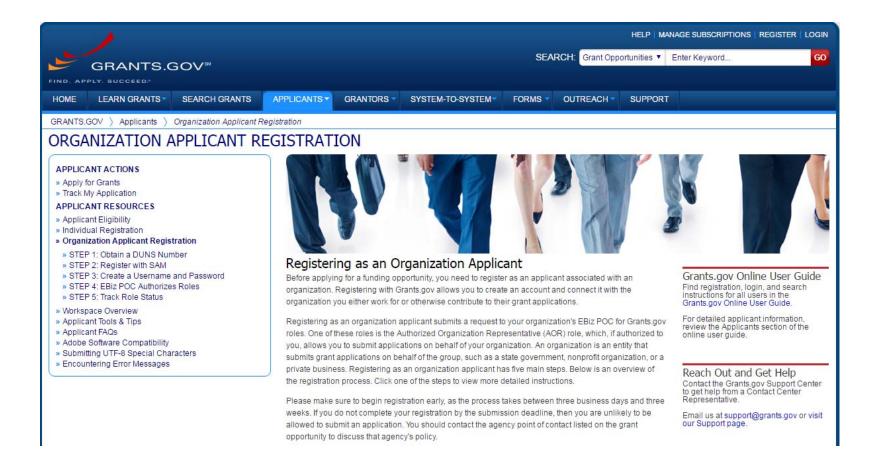


Grants.gov Registration



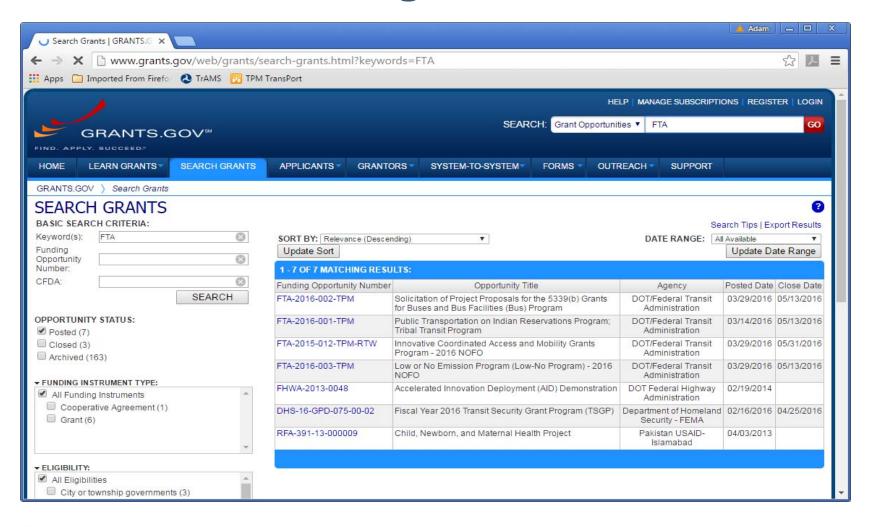


Grants.gov Registration





Grants.gov Search



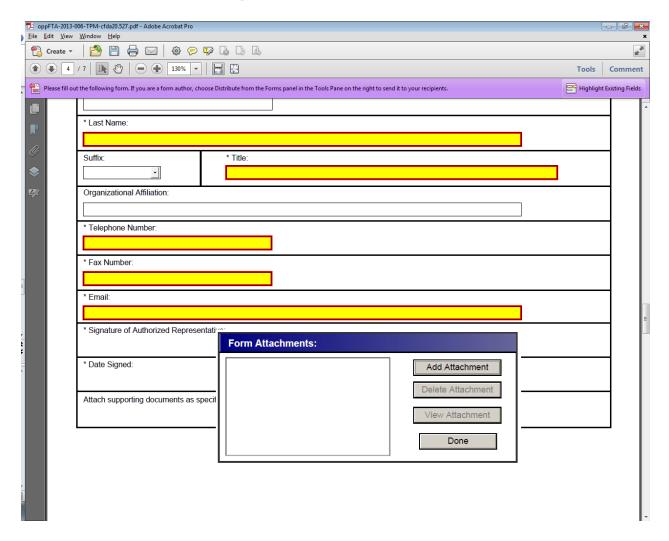


SF-424 Form

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0	Opportunity Title:	Notice of Funding Availability for Resilience Projects	
	Offering Agency: CFDA Number:	DOT/Federal Transit Administration	
~	CFDA Description:	Public Transportation Emergency Relief Program	
16/1	Opportunity Number:	FTA-2013-006-TPM	
	Competition ID:		
	Opportunity Open Date: Opportunity Close Date:	12/24/2013	
	Agency Contact:	03/29/2014 Adam Schildge	
		Program Manager E-mail: adam.schildge@dot.gov	
		Phone: 202-366-0778	
		nly open to organizations, applicants who are submitting grant applications on behalf of a company, ademia, or other type of organization.	state, local or
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	If the Federal funding o	oplication is intended to be used to apply for the specific Federal funding opportunity referenced here oportunity listed is not the opportunity for which you want to apply, close this application package by op of this screen. You will then need to locate the correct Federal funding opportunity, download its a	clicking on the

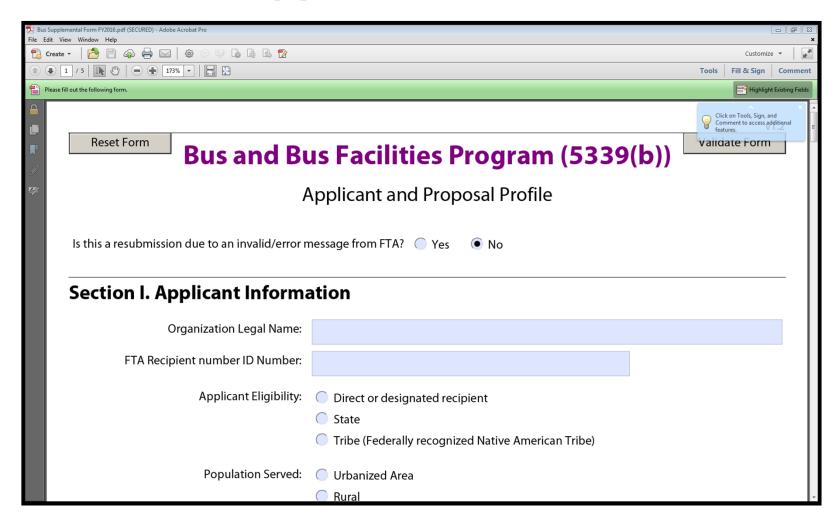


SF-424 Form





Supplemental Form





Supplemental Form

LOW	v or No Emission Bus Program (5339(c)) Validate Form
	Applicant and Proposal Profile
Is this a resubmission due to an inva	alid/error message from FTA? O Yes No
Section I. Applicant II	nformation
Organization Leg	jal Name:
FTA Recipient number ID	Number:
Applicant (Eligibility: Direct or designated recipient State A Federally-recognized Native American Tribe
Populatio	n Served: Urbanized Area
Description of services provided an	d areas served.
Section II. Project Info	ormation/Evaluation Criteria (This section repeats per project) Add Project
	About the Project
Project Title: (Descriptive title of this project)	About the Project
	About the Project
(Descriptive title of this project)	About the Project



FAQs

General Questions:

- Are non-fixed route vehicles are eligible for either program?
- Are toll revenue credits eligible as match for either program?
- Are school buses eligible for either program?
- Is there a maximum or minimum award limit for either program?
- Is workforce development eligible for the Bus Program?

Bus Program:

- Are direct recipients eligible to apply directly to FTA (without partnering with a designated recipient or State)?
- For replacement vehicles, how does the Ladders of Opportunity apply?
- Can an applicant submit the same project in both competitions?
- When demonstrating the state of need for replacement buses is it best to attach documentation or verbalize the status in the narrative?



FAQs

Low-No Program:

- Is a repower or a conversion of an existing diesel bus to electric propulsion eligible for funding under the Low-No program?
- When will the 2015 LoNo project selections be announced?
- Will partnerships with manufacturers be subject to the new Buy America requirements?
- How do I open and save the supplemental forms without losing my data?
- What facilities are eligible for funding?
- Are studies and consultations eligible?



Questions



Points of Contact

- For further application-specific information and other assistance needed in preparing a complete proposal, contact the appropriate FTA Regional Office found at www.fta.dot.gov.
- For Buses and Bus Facilities program-specific questions about applying for the funds as outlined in this notice, please contact **Samuel Snead**, Office of Program Management, 1200 New Jersey Ave. SE., Washington, DC 20590, phone: (202) 366-1089, or email, <u>Samuel.Snead@dot.gov</u>.
- For Low or No Emission program-specific questions about applying for the funds as outlined in this notice, please contact **Tara Clark**, same office, 202-366-2623, or email, Tara.Clark@dot.gov.
- For legal questions, Charla Tabb, Office of Chief Counsel, same address, phone: (202) 366–5152, or email, Charla.Tabb@dot.gov.

